

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING MR. AND MRS. TORRY KIDD, SR. ON THE OCCASION OF THEIR 65TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

## HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2007*

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. and Mrs. Torry Kidd, Sr., on the occasion of their 65th wedding anniversary. Torry Kidd, Sr., and Lydia Stallworth were married on June 26, 1942, at Parsonages at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Mobile, Alabama.

Mr. Kidd is a respected member of his church and community. He has been a member of the Greater Mount Olive Baptist Church #2 for over 60 years, recently serving as trustee. In 1942, he began his service with the U.S. Army. Following an honorable discharge, he went to work for McGowin & Lyons Hardware and Supply Company, while earning his degree from Spaulding Business School. Mr. Kidd then went to work for Moore Handley and became the company's first African-American salesperson. When the company relocated, Mr. Kidd became the building manager for World Wide Crating and Packing Company. He retired in 1984 and started Kidd Janitorial Service.

A member of Andrew Street Church of Christ for over 60 years, Mrs. Kidd was born Lydia Stallworth in Gordonville, Alabama. A graduate of Lowndes County Training School, her first job was with a janitorial service. After raising 11 children, Mrs. Kidd returned to the work force and began caring for elderly patients at Cogburn Nursing Home and later at the Medic Center in Mobile. Her skills combined with her compassionate heart led to requests for her service as a private duty nurse, which she was for over 30 years.

Their 11 children: Torry, Jr., Winston, Sr., Anthony, Sr., Christina, Wayne, Sr., Donna, Arnold, Sr., Amos, Beverly, Mark, Sr., and Phillip, Sr. would like me to pass on a special word of appreciation to their parents for the example they have set, the encouragement they have given; and yes, even the discipline they have administered. Mr. and Mrs. Kidd's family are grateful for the love they shared not only with them but with their many friends.

Madam Speaker, in these times where there is so much trouble and turmoil on the television set and all around us in our communities, it is refreshing to know a family that is committed to the values and outstanding morals that Mr. and Mrs. Torry Kidd, Sr., have encouraged in their marriage and family. I have no doubt that this marriage symbolizes the strength of character and love of God that every American should emulate. I know their 11 children, 25 grandchildren, 32 great grandchildren, and their many friends join with me in congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Kidd on their 65th anniversary and wishing for them many more happy celebrations to come.

MAJOR GENERAL JAMES H. PILLSBURY

## HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2007*

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to MG James H. Pillsbury and his dynamic wife Becky Pillsbury. We hail from the same great State of Texas. These two wonderful public servants have committed their careers to serving our Nation.

This summer will mark the end of General Pillsbury's tenure as Commander of the Army's Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal in Huntsville, Alabama, a command he assumed on December 1, 2003. Leaving Huntsville with him is his wife Becky, who has made a lasting impression in the Huntsville community as an area school teacher for the disabled and board member for a long list of organizations serving soldiers and their families.

General Pillsbury is a graduate of Trinity University in San Antonio, Texas where he earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in History. After that, he attended Troy State University, earning a Masters of Science in International Relations. He has completed Infantry Officer Basic Course, Transportation Officer Advanced Course, United States Army Command and General Staff College, and the United States Army War College.

For the past 34 years General Pillsbury has risen through the Army ranks, first commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in May of 1973. He has served here at home and abroad; his most recent position overseas was as the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-4, United States Army Europe and Seventh Army. General Pillsbury has been decorated with numerous military honors including: the Defense Superior Service Medal, the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Army Commendation Medal.

Becky also attended Trinity where she graduated with a degree in Elementary Education and Education for the Hearing Impaired and then pursuing her love for children with disabilities by earning a Masters from Pacific Lutheran University in Elementary Education and Learning Disabilities.

She has set a high standard for military wives at Redstone Arsenal. She co-founded the "Dream Factory," a wish granting organization for seriously and terminally ill children; and more recently co-founded "Still Serving Veterans," which affects the lives of thousand of new veterans in offering a wide range of support services as they transition to the civilian workforce.

Even though this outstanding couple is leaving the Huntsville community, they will not hesitate to come back and visit.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating MG James H. Pillsbury and his wife Becky on a phenomenal job in Huntsville . . . and wishing them the best of luck with the next chapter in their lives.

IN HONOR OF MRS. WENDY HARDING

## HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2007*

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mrs. Wendy Harding, the 2007 Muscogee County School District Teacher of the Year.

Almost every student that passes through a school, from the teacher's pet to the class clown, has a fond memory of a special teacher who positively influenced their lives. For many students at Columbus' Hardaway High School, that teacher has been a Spanish teacher named Wendy Harding.

Harding knows how to stick with a good thing once she's found it. She stayed happily married and raised two high-achieving children with her high school sweetheart Phil, who was also an educator, until his death from cancer 7 years ago. And Harding has spent every single day of her 31-year professional career at Hardaway High, making her the longest-serving teacher there.

Principal Matt Bell told the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer that Harding is an integral part of the school's success: "She's a leader in the school. She teaches everyone. She heads our mentor program. She cares about every student who comes through her doorway as well as students who don't. If a student doesn't learn in her class, she takes it personally. They all learn at a high level. They see her enthusiasm for her subject and her zest for life and it's just contagious."

Harding says she's wanted to become a teacher since she was 7 years old. Now, she mentors the next generation of teachers, encouraging her own students to pick up the torch that enlightens young minds. Those influenced by her example include her daughter, who last year was named First Year Teacher of the Year in a Texas school district. The skills needed to excel at the head of the classroom obviously run deep in the family blood.

I would like to personally thank Mrs. Harding for her many years of outstanding service to the young people of Muscogee County. Teachers such as her, across Georgia and the United States, make a positive difference every day.

On behalf of Georgia's 3rd Congressional District, I congratulate the Muscogee County Teacher of the Year and wish her many years of continued success.

TRIBUTE TO DR. PETER B. AJLUNI

## HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2007*

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Peter B. Ajluni of

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Bloomfield Hills, Michigan on his election to the position of 111th president of the American Osteopathic Association.

In 1965, Dr. Peter B. Ajluni graduated from the Chicago College of Osteopathy to become a board certified osteopathic physician. For 35 years, Dr. Ajluni has delivered high quality service to his patients.

Currently, Dr. Ajluni is a senior orthopedic surgeon in the Bone and Joint Center at the Regional Medical Center in Mount Clemens, Michigan. He has also served as president of both the Michigan Osteopathic Association and the Michigan Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedic Surgeons. Furthermore, Dr. Ajluni has served on the American Osteopathic Association Board of Trustees since 1998.

As president of the American Osteopathic Association, Dr. Ajluni will lead 59,000 osteopathic physicians to deliver high quality and cost-effective health care in this vital profession. In addition, Dr. Ajluni will help to ensure the osteopathic community is united in their profession and that they receive the highest quality of education and training programs.

Dr. Ajluni resides in Michigan's Ninth Congressional district with his wife Judy. They have a daughter and two sons. I am proud to have the Ajluni family as constituents.

Madam Speaker, once again, I congratulate Dr. Ajluni on his election as the President of the American Osteopathic Association and for his long dedication to high quality patient care.

#### H.R. 2775, A BILL TO AUTHORIZE FUNDING FOR THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT PROGRAM

**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2007*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, today I introduce H.R. 2775, a bill to authorize funding for the Emergency Management Performance Grant ("EMPG") program.

H.R. 2775 authorizes \$1.35 billion for Fiscal Years 2009 through 2011 for the Administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA") to continue to implement the EMPG program. The bill codifies the EMPG program under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act ("Stafford Act").

EMPG is the Federal Government's principal program to build the capability of State and local governments to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards. Administered by FEMA, EMPG is truly a partnership between the Federal Government and State and local governments that has withstood the test of time. This grant program has been in existence, under different names, since the 1950s and derives its authority from the Stafford Act.

As recent history has shown, despite the grave potential threat that terrorism poses, our country faces and responds to the threats of natural hazards far more frequency. The terror of Katrina is still fresh in our memories, and our Nation faces smaller-scale natural disasters every day. Just last month, a region of my district was devastated by a threat that started in the U.S., then roared across the Canadian border: not a terrorist attack, but a 75,000 acre forest fire.

Despite the risk that our country faces from all hazards, EMPG receives a small fraction of what the Federal Government spends on terrorism-specific programs. In April, the Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management held a hearing on the Federal Government's programs related to preparedness for all hazards. At that hearing, Members of the Subcommittee learned that in FY 2006, EMPG received only a small fraction—about 10 percent—of the funding allocated to terrorism preparedness programs.

EMPG has a long, successful history of fostering true preparedness capabilities at the State and local level. The program requires a non-Federal share of 50 percent, but state and local governments overmatch Federal funds by approximately \$96 million each year. This 50-percent cost share is specifically designed to require State and local governments to contribute their resources to building strong emergency management capabilities. This is why, unlike many other Federal grant programs, State and local governments have not sought an increased Federal cost share for this program.

Recently, some in Congress and in the Administration have sought to undermine and undo the EMPG program, by proposing changes that stand to gut the core all hazards nature of the program. I introduce this bill today to provide the current EMPG program with statutory reinforcement.

The administration proposed in its FY 2008 Budget request that EMPG should be combined with terrorism programs. I am pleased that the FY 2008 Homeland Security Appropriations bill, passed by the House last week, rejected this misguided proposal and funds EMPG as a separate program. The Committee on Appropriations recognized the importance of the EMPG program as "the one true all-hazard sources of funding for emergency managers," as stated in the Committee report. In the same manner that Congress must wall off and protect the appropriation for EMPG, we must act to reinforce this program through an authorization.

It has been suggested, in the other body, that the EMPG program be codified as an amendment to an act other than the Stafford Act. In fact, the Senate does exactly that in its version of the 9/11 Commission Recommendations Bill (S. 4). This approach would be a mistake. If EMPG is authorized outside of the Stafford Act, DHS may use its administrative authority to turn EMPG into another terrorism preparedness program. This shift would undercut all-hazards preparedness and place States in danger of not being ready for natural disasters and other non-terrorism hazards, which are significantly, even drastically, more likely to occur.

The Stafford Act is the natural and historic home for this program. The authority to prepare for all hazards must be kept together with the authority to respond to, recover from, and mitigate against all hazards, which is found in the Stafford Act. This view is supported by the nation's State and local emergency managers.

One of the key lessons learned from Hurricane Katrina is that separating the programs and organizations that prepare for disasters from the rest of the emergency management system leads to sluggish and ineffective response. Recognizing this mistake, Congress reunited preparedness with the rest of emer-

gency management functions in FEMA at the end of the 109th Congress, by passing the Post Katrina Emergency Management Reform Act. This reorganization of FEMA became effective less than 3 months ago, on April 1, 2007. Authorizing EMPG as a program separate from the other emergency management programs would begin to undo this much-needed reform, and reinstate the mistakes that led to the Department of Homeland Security's dismal response to Hurricane Katrina.

IN HONOR OF LENORE GOLDEN SHACKELFORD

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 14, 2007*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Lenore Golden Shackelford of Quitman, GA. In recognition of her 60 plus years of service to her community in south Georgia and her nomination by the National Coalition of One Hundred Black Women as a "Woman Who Inspires."

Ms. Shackelford, a native of Quitman, GA, has spent the greater balance of her life in service to the community there. In 1950 she started her professional career as a Social studies teacher and Girls' Basketball Coach at Morven Rosenwald High School in Brooks County. She went on to teach the fourth and fifth grades at New Empress Elementary School in Brooks County before returning to school and receiving her Certification in Guidance and Counseling from Florida A & M University in 1959.

She returned to service in education as a Social Studies Teacher and School Counselor at Washington Street High School in Quitman, GA. Ms. Shackelford was one of the first certified school counselors in the state of Georgia and the first school counselor in Brooks County.

Ms. Shackelford was a devoted teacher and counselor, who made it her mission to have direct interaction with each of her students in order to help them have productive futures. During her 30 years as a school counselor, Ms. Shackelford was also very active in her community. She coordinated community committees to address personnel issues in the Brooks County School System, organized Human Rights Committees, and played an instrumental role in establishing Martin Luther King, Jr. Day in Brooks County Public Schools.

So, on this the 19th day of June, 2007, I with great honor commend Ms. Lenore Golden Shackelford, for her many years of unheralded service to the people of Brooks County. She is truly a credit to the Second Congressional District of Georgia, the State of Georgia, and the United States as a whole.

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**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 19, 2007*

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Alaska is America's Energy Ace in the Hole. If our Nation truly